

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 13, characterized by containing the intermetallic compound Ni₃Al and coexistent components, wherein the contents of Ni and Al are respectively 77 to 95% and 5 to 23% with respect to the total element composition in wt% (wt %) including the coexistent components.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The A methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 1 comprising an intermetallic compound Ni₃Al, characterized by being a powder or granule prepared by machining and mechanically polishing a melt-prepared ingot or in an atomization process.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The A methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 1 comprising an intermetallic compound Ni₃Al, wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on the a surface thereof of the Ni₃Al.

Claim 6 (Original) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 5, wherein the metal fine particles are fine particles of at least one of the metals of Ni and Ni₃Al.

Claims 7 and 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The methanol-reforming method according to Claim 821, wherein the methanol or the liquid mixture of methanol and water is brought into contact with the catalyst that is previously subjected to a hydrogen reduction treatment.

Claims 10 and 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 2, wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on ~~the~~a surface ~~there~~of the Ni₃Al.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 3, wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on ~~the~~a surface ~~there~~of the Ni₃Al.

Claim 14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 2, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 3, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 5, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 6, characterized by being alkali or acid treated.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~

~~according to Claim 2, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of
Claim 2.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~
~~according to Claim 3, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of
Claim 3.

Claim 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~
~~according to Claim 5, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of
Claim 5.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) A methanol-reforming method ~~by using the catalyst~~
~~according to Claim 6, characterized in that~~which comprises producing hydrogen is produced by
bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with the catalyst of
Claim 6.

Claim 25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26 (New) The methanol-reforming catalyst according to Claim 5, wherein the
contents of Ni and Al are respectively 77 to 95% and 5 to 23% with respect to the total element
composition in wt%.

Claim 27 (New) The methanol-reforming method according to Claim 23, wherein the

methanol or the liquid mixture of methanol and water is brought into contact with the catalyst that is previously subjected to a hydrogen reduction treatment.